

Libby

Truro Rural District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1957



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Truro Rural District Council

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT :

Medical Officer of Health—

DR. V. E. WHITMAN, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
D.T.M. & H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Building Surveyor—

A. H. BENNETT, M.A.P.H.I., Cert.R.S.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors—

E. L. BURLEY, M.A.P.H.I., Cert.R.S.I.

D. L. CUNNICK, M.A.P.H.I., Cert.R.S.I.

E. V. JOHN, M.A.P.H.I., Cert.R.S.I.

Office Staff—

C. R. WASLEY.

MISS D. M. SYMONS.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Truro Rural District during 1957.

There were two epidemics during the year, Measles, with 352 cases, and Influenza, number unknown. The Measles was spread pretty evenly over the district, it was mild in character and there were few complications. The Influenza was of the Asian type. It came in two waves, the first affecting chiefly children and adolescents. The disease was usually mild and recovery rapid and complete. There were five deaths due to the disease, two of males aged 60 years, one male aged 71 years and two females aged 72 and 79 respectively. Apart from the epidemics the year was a healthy one.

Progress continues to be steady rather than spectacular. Two village sewerage schemes were completed and two others begun. Within the means at the Council's disposal this seems to be about the maximum possible, but the list of unsewered villages is a long one and the patience of some ratepayers will be sadly tried before they get modern sanitation.

It is a pleasure once again to acknowledge the support and consideration I have received from the Chairman and members of the Health Committee, I should like also to thank Mr. Bennett and his staff for their loyal co-operation throughout the year.

I have the honour to be

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant

V. E. WHITMAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Except where otherwise stated figures in brackets throughout the Report are those for 1956.

Area, acres	...	...	...	108,316	
Parishes	...	...	...	24	
Population, mid-1957	...	...	...	26,560	(26,690)
Number of inhabited houses			...	9,946	
Rateable value	...	...	...	£204,766	(£212,513)
Product of 1d. rate	...	...	...	£853	(£880)
Number of houses built since 1945	...			1,054	(952)
Number of houses under construction				62	(92)
Number of families accommodated in converted buildings:—					
Cameron Estate	...	...		77	(77)
Trevellas Estate	...	...		14	(14)

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

Males 201 (190)	Females 188 (184)	Total 389 (374)
Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor		1.12 (1.13)
Birth rate, per 1,000 population, Truro Rural District		16.4 (15.8)
Birth rate, per 1,000 population, England and Wales		16.1 (15.6)

Stillbirths

Males 9 (7)	Females 7 (3)	Total 16 (10)
Stillbirth rate, per 1,000 all births, Truro Rural District		39.5 (26.0)
Stillbirth rate, per 1,000 all births, England and Wales		22.4 (23.0)

Deaths

Males 202 (161)	Females 170 (215)	Total 372 (376)
Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor		0.81 (0.81)
Death rate, per 1,000 population, Truro Rural District		11.0 (11.4)
Death rate, per 1,000 population, England and Wales		11.5 (11.7)

Deaths of Infants under 1 year (all under 4 weeks)

Males 10 (2)	Females 2 (2)	Total 12 (4)
Infant mortality rate, per 1,000 live births, Truro Rural District		30.8 (10.7)
Infant mortality rate, per 1,000 live births, England and Wales		23.0 (23.8)

Birth, Death and Infant Mortality Rates from 1950

The figures in brackets in this table are those for the United Kingdom.

	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
1950	13.7 (15.8)	10.5 (11.6)	20.5 (29.6)
1951	16.1 (15.5)	11.7 (12.5)	25.4 (29.7)
1952	14.5 (15.3)	9.9 (11.3)	31.0 (27.6)
1953	14.0 (15.5)	9.0 (11.4)	29.2 (26.8)
1954	14.9 (15.2)	10.3 (11.3)	14.1 (25.4)
1955	13.6 (15.0)	10.5 (11.7)	28.0 (24.9)
1956	15.8 (15.6)	11.4 (11.7)	10.7 (23.7)
1957	16.4 (16.1)	11.0 (11.5)	30.8 (23.1)

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

				1954	1955	1956	1957
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	4	5	3	2
Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	2	2	—	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	1	—	—
Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	1	2	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	11	8	5	6
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	10	7	8	10
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	1	5	9	7
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	6	4	3	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	38	36	34	33
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	...	...	2	—	1	3
Diabetes	...	...	...	2	5	2	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	41	57	65	52
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	60	47	59	61
Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	8	5	4	6
Other heart disease	...	...	...	65	75	82	76
Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	15	10	14	18
Influenza	...	...	...	1	2	2	5
Pneumonia	...	...	...	10	12	14	9
Bronchitis	...	...	...	8	8	12	6
Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	6	9	6	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	8	5	2	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	2	2	2	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	9	2	1	4
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	2	10	3	9
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
Congenital malformation	...	...	...	4	2	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	39	33	30	42
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	2	3	1	5
All other accidents	...	...	...	6	6	7	5
Suicide	...	...	...	3	4	3	1
Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	1	—	—
				<hr/> 367	<hr/> 369	<hr/> 376	<hr/> 372

DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS

	Males		Females		Total	
Under 1 year	10	(2)	2	(2)	12	(4)
1—4 years	1	(—)	1	(—)	2	(—)
5—14 years	3	(—)	—	(—)	3	(—)
15—24 years	2	(1)	2	(—)	4	(1)
25—44 years	2	(3)	5	(9)	7	(12)
45—64 years	41	(42)	29	(30)	70	(72)
65—74 years	63	(47)	36	(45)	99	(92)
75+	80	(66)	95	(129)	175	(195)

73.6% (76.3%) of all deaths were of persons over the age of 65 years.
 47.0% (51.9%) of all deaths were of persons over the age of 75 years.

PERINATAL MORTALITY, 1957

	Population	Live	Still	Deaths	Perinatal
	mid-1957	Births	Births	within 7 days	Mortality
Falmouth	16,540	247	8	1	35.3
Penryn	4,320	77	3	1	50.0
Truro City	13,540	177	2	1	17.0
Truro Rural	26,560	389	16	10	64.2
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Health Area	60,960	890	29	13	45.7
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Cornwall Perinatal Mortality, 1957	44.9
England and Wales Perinatal Mortality, 1957	36.2

The outstanding features of the Vital Statistics this year are the very high figures of stillbirths and infant deaths. When dealing with a comparatively small community large fluctuations occur from year to year. It will be seen, for instance, that in 1954 and 1956 the Infant Mortality Rate for the District was very much lower than that for the country as a whole. The Infant Mortality Rate for the five year period ended 31/12/57 works out at 22.3 which is less than that for England and Wales in 1957, but the Stillbirth Rate for the same period is 31.5 compared with the national rate for 1957 of 22.4.

An investigation of the twelve Infant Deaths shows that seven of them occurred in hospital, six due to premature birth and one to pneumonia. Of the five deaths at home, one was due to prematurity, three to difficult labour and one to congenital disease.

The other Vital Statistics are very satisfactory and the table of Birth, Death and Infant Mortality Rates from 1950 shows that this is not due to fluctuation of any sort. There were a number of infections during the year due to a virulent form of staphylococcus. This was probably the cause of the infant death from pneumonia and also for the two deaths in the 1 to 5 age group. In the next age group two of the three deaths were due to motor accidents, the two children being pedestrians.

**GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICE,
1957**

(i) Clinics	Sessions	Attendances
St. Agnes, Churchtown	22	223
St. Agnes, Cameron Estate	23	294
Perranporth	23	461
Grampound Road	20	232
Perranwell Station	21	297

(ii) Ambulance Service

The Rural District is covered by ambulances and utilecons based on the Main Centres at Truro, Falmouth and Redruth.

(iii) Home Help Service

12 (8) maternity and 34 (45) other cases were given help in their own homes during the year.

It was excepted that the rural areas would use the Home Help Service less than urban areas because more neighbourly help is available in the former and this has proved to be the case. It has happened, however, that where help has been needed it has been difficult and sometimes impossible to recruit suitable helpers. Far too many cases have had to be helped by full time workers travelling from Truro and Penryn.

(iv) After-Care

Grants of free extra nourishment were made to 2 (3) sufferers from tuberculosis on the recommendation of the Chest Physician.

(v) Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory examined and reported on 38 (22) samples of ice cream and 87 (92) samples of water during the year.

(vi) Nursing Service

	1954	1955	1956	1957
General Nursing cases	1,216	1,881	2,322	1,199
General Nursing visits	18,528	18,094	24,466	24,466
Midwifery cases	179	170	210	200
Midwifery visits	3,639	3,408	4,447	3,496
Ante-natal visits	1,880	2,151	2,360	2,149
General Health visits	8,617	11,256	8,939	7,084
Old Persons visits	4,024	8,761	14,200	8,136

Miss E. J. Jennings, Assistant County Nursing Officer writes :—

In September, a Queen's District Nurse/Midwife/Health Visitor was appointed to the Parish of Kea. She lives in one of the two nurses flats in Chacewater.

The number of babies born in their own homes numbered 200, ten less than in 1956.

It is a matter of real concern to the health visitors that in some of their parishes the number of children under one year who are protected against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus falls well below the safety level. In Cornwall, in 1957, at least one child under a year old was killed by whooping cough. To prevent is much easier than to cure. The parishes which are least protected are Chacewater, Gwennap, Probus, St. Michael Penkivel, Newlyn East, Cubert and Kenwyn. On the other hand, the Roseland area, Feock and Perran-ar-Worthal have protection rates well over 80%.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Age Group	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1	—	—	7	6	6	3
1—2	—	—	11	14	23	18
3—4	1	—	10	9	47	46
5—9	1	2	38	60	94	91
10—14	—	—	3	6	11	7
15—24	—	—	1	—	—	—
25+	—	—	1	6	2	4
	2	2	71	101	183	169
Totals	4		172		352	

Age Group	Pneumonia		Erysipelas		Puerperal Pyrexia	Poisoning Food	
	M	F	M	F	F	M	F
—5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	—	1	—	—	—	—	4
15—44	1	1	—	—	1	—	—
45—64	8	1	—	3	—	—	—
65+	2	9	—	1	—	—	—
	11	13	—	4	1	—	4
Totals	24		4		1	4	

Poliomyelitis

There were no cases during the year.

The supply of poliomyelitis vaccine was inadequate and spasmodic throughout the year. In view of the difficulties of manufacture and the stringency of the tests to which the vaccine is put this was understandable. What was not easy to understand or to endure was the infuriating publicity issued from the Ministry of Health. Announcements of plans and hopes were issued from time to time to the lay press, but quite often the hopes failed to materialise and we, the vaccinators who knew no more than we had seen in the press, had to spend valuable time and nervous energy in pacifying anxious and angry parents. Also at our throats were those general medical practitioners who, having agreed to take part in the vaccination scheme, were naturally anxious to get on with the job.

369 children were given two doses of vaccine during the year while 118 were partially protected with one dose.

Diphtheria

No cases of diphtheria occurred in 1957. 213 (284) children under five and 12 (18) over five were immunised against the disease during the year and 121 (234) booster doses were given.

It is estimated that on the 31st December, 1957, there were 1,334 (1,337) children in the Rural District between the ages of one and five years. Of these 984 (972), or 73.8% (72.7%), had been immunised against diphtheria.

It is hoped that Miss Jennings' remarks above will stimulate those in the parishes named to do all in their power to improve on the present low protection rates.

Food Poisoning

The four notified cases of food poisoning occurred at Kea, Playing Place and Feock schools. On investigation, it was found that a total of 41 children had been affected, all of whom had partaken of the school meal that day. No fault could be found with the cooks or the kitchen or the method of preparing and serving the meals. A germ capable of causing food poisoning was found in the dried milk from which the sweet had been prepared and it must be presumed that this was the source of the trouble. Only two children were really ill and they both recovered in two to three days.

Smallpox

No case of this disease occurred during the year.

80 (47) of the 389 (374) children born during the year were vaccinated. Also vaccinated for the first time were 84 (97) between the ages of one and 15 years and 13 (18) older persons, 66 (67) persons were re-vaccinated.

Tuberculosis

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—44	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—54	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—64	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65+	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
	12	2	1	—	1	1	—	—
Totals	14		1		2		—	

The number of cases of tuberculosis on the register at the end of the year was 169 (172) pulmonary and 35 (34) non-pulmonary. This represents an incidence of 7.7 (7.7) per 1,000 of the population.

B.C.G. Vaccination

Since the scheme for vaccinating school leavers began in 1953, 519 (410) children have been vaccinated with B.C.G. 369 (299) contacts with cases of tuberculosis have also been vaccinated.

Mass Radiography

135 school leavers attending schools in the Rural District were X-rayed by the Mass Radiography Unit during the year. No disease or abnormalities of any sort were discovered.

To the Chairman and Members of the Truro Rural District Council.
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Reviewing the work of 1957 in the course of preparing this Report it is pleasing to see that progress continues to be made. Much of the work done by my Department is routine and unspectacular, but the very fact that it has not attracted much publicity is, in one sense, evidence that things are going smoothly.

The completion of the sewerage schemes at Tresillian and Playing Place is a matter for satisfaction, and it will remove the cause of much anxiety which we have had in the past on account of overflowing cesspits and drains in these areas.

I am glad that more attention than ever has been given to the inspection of restaurants and food shops this year, but more is still desirable. Unfortunately, with the staff available, it is not possible to give this important aspect of our work all the supervision I would like. We are obliged sometimes to "let sleeping dogs lie" and hope our faith is not betrayed by one of them waking up and biting us.

One difficult problem which is increasing in frequency is that of summer visitors who come to us with complaints about accommodation they have booked. Attractively advertised, they find on arrival that there is dampness, inadequate sanitary accommodation, or dirty conditions. These complaints have related to caravans, furnished cottages, farmhouses and holiday camps, and on inspection they have sometimes been found justified. There is not always time to investigate these complaints, but on health grounds—particularly as regards the handling of food in unclean conditions—more time could well be spent in this direction.

This kind of misrepresentation and treatment of visitors is bad publicity for the County, especially as the victim usually loses his deposit, if not more, when he refuses to stay in the rooms he has taken, and it is a pity some form of registration or other control cannot be applied. There is probably no really satisfactory solution to this problem, but it is one I feel which is worthy of some consideration.

In conclusion, I wish to acknowledge information provided on Sewerage Schemes by your Consulting Engineers, Messrs. Osmand & Lane, and to express my thanks to Dr. Whitman for his advice and support, and to my staff who, as always, have worked so well throughout the year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

A. H. BENNETT,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

for the year ending 31st December, 1957.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water Supply

(a) *Mains Supplies*

At Newlyn East water is purchased in bulk from Newquay Water Company, and, similarly, water is bought from Truro Water Company for Tresillian. The village of Devoran has its own piped supply from a small privately owned system, and Falmouth Corporation are responsible for the supply and distribution of water through their mains in the Parish of Mylor.

The greater part of the District is served by the Council's two major schemes, both carried out since the war, namely the Ladock and South East Scheme and the Chacewater and South West Scheme. The parishes of St. Agnes and Perranzabuloe, however, were each provided by the Council with their own separate systems many years ago, and in recent years the hamlet of Shortlanesend, in the Parish of Kenwyn, was given a small scheme.

The various systems set out above provide mains water to all but a few very thinly populated parishes and, with the exception of the Devoran supply, all the water is chlorinated.

Supplies from deep well or borehole pumps on a number of the Council's Housing Estates continue to be discarded in favour of main supplies as opportunity permits.

(b) *Other Sources*

Boreholes, springs, wells and rainwater storage tanks supply the needs of those members of the community still unable to take advantage of main supplies, and in a District such as this it is inevitable that such sources will always be required to a certain extent.

(c) *Quality and Sufficiency*

Regular samples were, as usual, frequently taken from the main supplies and the Analyst's reports showed that a satisfactory standard of purity was being maintained.

Samples from public wells and other private domestic supplies were not always as good, and when found to be polluted cleansing and protective works have been carried out, and, where necessary, notices fixed warning consumers to boil the water.

Rainfall for the year, as recorded at the Ladock Pumping Station was 39.69 ins. as against 39.42 ins. for 1956.

The Water Engineer, Mr. W. C. J. Truscott, reports as follows :—

“ Water was made available to the Ladock Quarry (Ladock and South East Scheme) during the year from the Ladock stream, so that no further difficulty should be experienced from this Pumping Station regarding water available. Wheal Daniel, Chacewater, stood up to the demand exceedingly well, while St. Agnes maintained its supplies from Gover with little assistance from Menagissey during the holiday months. The position as regards Perranzabuloe deteriorated to such an extent that a spare starter had to be obtained on loan so that both pumps at Treamble could be put into operation at one time, thus bringing the total output up to approximately 12,000 gallons per hour.

“ It is interesting to note that the highest discharge of water from Treamble was made during the week ending 11th August when a total amount of 1,641,600 gallons was pumped into the mains of the Parish, about 400,000 gallons increase over the peak period for 1956.

“ With the pumping from both pumps satisfaction was obtained in Perranporth.”

(d) Schemes in Hand

The Council's Consulting Engineers have prepared a scheme for the augmentation of the high level Perranporth supply. This involves the running of a main from the Pumping Station at Wheal Daniel to the existing reservoir at Silverwell. The scheme should be started in 1958 and is designed for integration with the future Stithians Impounding Scheme.

(e) New Connections and Maintenance Work

The Water Engineer's report continues :—

“ Connections to the two major water schemes, the Ladock and South East and Chacewater and South West, have continued to be made both for domestic supplies and farm use during the year, and with the exception of Perranzabuloe no trouble has been experienced with the supplies or pumping equipment.

“ An electrically driven submersible pump was lowered into the borehole for the Trispen Council Houses, after the petrol driven plant had been removed. The present arrangement allows a time switch to operate the pump which actually does away with a pump attendant and high cost of petrol for the old arrangement.

"Metered supplies for non-domestic use continue to be installed with the result that over 900 water meters now have to be maintained and read. During the year a very small percentage of this number were found to be out of order and the repairs were carried out at the time of the half-yearly water meter readings.

"Three short water main extensions have been carried out at Feock to allow water to be afforded for some 20 building plots. Ponsmain, Feock, saw the laying of a 400 yard extension of the existing 3 in. Water Main to provide water for building plots. At the top of Loe Hill (Loe Beach) a short diversion of the original 4 in. asbestos main had to be made to allow access to building plots. The laying of the 180 yard 3 in. main extension at Treviglas Lane, Probus, was completed. Six houses on the boundary of the Truro Rural District Council's Area at Calenick have been supplied with water from a short extension of a 1½ in. galvanized main.

"In order to allow water to be available at Trewithian for building purposes a 170 yard 3 in. main extension was carried out, which also enabled additional properties to connect.

"In all cases of water main extensions fire hydrants have been installed, the cost of installation being made by the Cornwall County Fire Brigade.

"Ministry permission was also granted to allow water to be supplied by the Rural District to a creamery and four properties inside the Camborne-Redruth Urban District boundary.

"Three cracks appeared in the pre-stressed elevated tower at Trewartha. A repair was made by lining the inside of the tower with a bitumastic solution.

"A serious collapse occurred over the adit which takes water from the Penhallow Moors to Gover, an old air shaft which had previously been the means of approach to the adit, completely collapsed with the result that a firm of contractors had to be engaged to open out the surrounding ground to a depth of between 20 and 30 feet, form a concrete collar, built up to road level in solid 18 in. work and, finally, covering the whole of the new work with a 6 in. concrete slab. In both the top cover and collaring, access doors have been left in case work has to be done in the adit.

"At Wheal Daniel Pumping Station a breakdown occurred on one of the submersible pumps which necessitated it being withdrawn and returned to the manufacturers. While the pump was away a spare pump was transferred to the site in case of breakdown of the pump in service. At Treamble Pumping Station one submersible pump has been withdrawn for the usual overhaul after 5,000 hours running.

“During the period before the influx of visitors opportunity was taken to flush out the greater part of the water main so that a clear sample of water could be delivered to the consumers.

“The Automatic Booster equipment at Veryan continued to give good service throughout the year and little trouble was experienced, likewise, little attention was needed to the elevated towers at Newlyn East and Cubert. All pre-stressed reservoirs in use have so far proved satisfactory and little trouble has been encountered.

“Additional work which has been attended to during the year includes the renewing of the limestone chippings in the neutralising chambers at Silverwell and the normal routine of repairs to burst water mains, repairs to communication pipes and stop cocks.

“In the case of all new connections being made I am now making use of pre-stressed sections to form the meter pits and stop cock pits. This method simplifies any repairs which might become necessary as the sections can be used over and over again and no jointing medium is necessary.

“Concluding, I would like to pay a tribute to the pump attendants at the various pumping stations for the manner in which the machinery, buildings and land inside the fencing has been maintained. It compares very favourably with buildings I have seen on far bigger undertakings than the Truro Rural District Council.”

2. Sewerage

The position regarding progress in the village sewerage schemes is as follows:—

(a) *Tresillian*

This Sewerage Scheme was completed in August, 1957, when the Pumping Station was put into commission, and the new Council House Estate connected into the new sewers.

(b) *Kea, Playing Place*

This scheme was started in April, 1957, and virtually completed in December, 1957. Connections to the system began immediately.

(c) *Portscatho*

This scheme was started in December, 1957, during which month work was commenced on the sea outfall at Pencabe Drang.

(d) *Chacewater*

The plans for the Sewerage Scheme are in the course of preparation, and the scheme in general has been approved by the Council.

(e) *Probus and Newlyn East*

These schemes have been investigated by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the scheme for Probus Sewerage approved in principle. No starting dates have yet been allocated.

(f) *Other Villages*

Main sewerage systems at Perranporth, St. Agnes, St. Mawes, Mount Hawke, Blackwater and Grampound Road gave no particular trouble during the year. The first three of these schemes discharge untreated sewage to the sea by gravity, except at Perranporth where it has to be pumped in stages by electricity towards its point of discharge.

The Sewage Pumping Plants at Perranporth have continued to give good service with very little repairs being necessary.

3. **Sewerage Works**

During the year a Sewage Works Attendant has been appointed. This man is supplied with a small 5 cwt. van and equipment to allow him to make bi-weekly visits to the Disposal Works at Blackwater, Goonhavern, Grampound Road and Perranwell, together with the smaller works for Council Houses at Carnon Downs, Veryan, Trispen and Tresillian. Playing Place Works will become available for maintenance in 1958.

Modern plant has been installed in these works and samples of the effluents have been found satisfactory.

4. **Public Conveniences**

The Council own twelve public conveniences.

At Perranporth the Council continue to maintain the large, modern conveniences—built by the Perranporth Gardens Trustees—and a male and female attendant are employed there throughout the summer season. Part-time attendance only is given during the remainder of the year.

5. **Cesspool Emptying**

During the year 855 emptyings of cesspools were carried out.

A Karrier Yorkshire machine is in use six days a week. It was necessary to hire Truro City's vehicle on two days and St. Austell Rural District Council's on 14 days, so that applications for emptying could be dealt with without excessive delay.

During the latter part of the year it was decided that it was becoming impossible to deal with the many applications from private individuals, and at the same time give adequate attention to the various septic tanks and treatment works on Council Estates. Accordingly, tenders were sought for the supply of a second cesspool emptier, and subsequently an order was placed with Messrs. Shelvoke & Drewry for a new vehicle with a diesel engine.

6. Refuse Collection and Disposal

Of the four collection vehicles owned by the Council, one of the two old Karrier Bantams was replaced by a new machine of the same size and make.

The amount of refuse collected continues to grow, and a considerable amount of overtime is worked, especially in the summer months. Most parts have a weekly collection, but some of the more lightly populated areas are restricted to fortnightly visits, or, in the case of a few isolated communities, monthly ones.

Occasionally applications for a collection are received from odd houses, or groups of two or three, but it is usually impossible to accede to them with our present facilities owing to the extra time which would be taken up by a deviation from the regular routes.

It would be of great help if many more householders would burn waste paper and cardboard and so leave more room for the indestructible refuse which has to be taken often long distances to one of the five refuse tips.

The method of disposal is by Controlled Tipping, and three of the five tips are kept in a very, or reasonably satisfactory condition. The others, where indifferent part-time labour is all that is available, are not always as satisfactory as one would like.

Occasionally a bulldozer is hired when circumstances demand, and all tips receive regular rat destruction treatment. A tip dressing is applied as required to control the breeding of flies.

7. Salvage

The Council do not now operate any kind of salvage scheme.

8. Rat Destruction

One whole-time operator is employed with an 8 h.p. van.

Systematic surveys have continued through the year, and where necessary treatments carried out by methods approved by the Ministry of Food.

The Council's refuse tips and sewerage systems receive regular attention. No charge is made for treatments at private houses.

Infestations were of a minor character. Farm treatments continue to be carried out in the main by staff of the Agricultural Executive Committee with whom co-operation is maintained,

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Meat

There are 16 licensed slaughterhouses situated in various parts of the District, although the bulk of the slaughtering is carried on in only three or four of them. Much of the meat is sent out of the County, and meat inspection is practically full-time work for two Inspectors.

A Ministry grant towards the cost of meat inspection was announced during the year, and will help to ease the financial burden of inspecting much "export" meat which goes out of this District.

Ninety to ninety-five per cent of the meat killed in this District is inspected, but only by the diligence and conscientious hard work of the Meat Inspectors who are faced with slaughtering seven days a week. In the interest of the public, who should receive the protection of 100% meat inspection, and in justice to the Inspectors, Local Authorities should have power to control, within reason, the hours and days of slaughtering. A new move towards a policy of moderate concentration of slaughterhouses and the elimination of some of the many small premises scattered all over the place would be another great step towards efficient supervision, both from the inspection angle and for better control over the disposal of condemned meat.

Two new slaughterman's licences were granted, and 62 were renewed.

Other Foods

(a) *Ice-cream*

Most of the ice-cream sold in the District is prepacked, 95 registered retailers selling it in this form only.

Ice-cream obtained in bulk from the manufacturers is served by 25 retailers, and four premises only are registered for its manufacture.

39 samples were taken and the Methylene Blue Tests made by the Analyst gave the following results:—

Grade I	...	...	...	...	35
Grade II	...	...	...	...	0
Grade III	...	...	...	...	0
Grade IV	...	...	...	...	4

(b) *Premises registered under Sec. 16 Food & Drugs Act, 1955, other than for the sale of ice-cream* ... 11

(c) *Dairies registered under the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949-54* ... 2

Distributors registered under the Regulations ... 18

On 1st April the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) Order, 1957 came into operation. From that date, milk retailed in the District has to be either Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised or Sterilized.

HOUSING

1. Slum Clearance

Clearance Orders have been confirmed by the Minister as follows :—

Flushing	...	...	...	6 houses
Newlyn East	...	...	...	3 houses
Gerrans	...	...	...	2 houses
Portscatho	...	...	...	2 houses

Detailed figures of other houses dealt with are given later in the Report.

2. Overcrowding.

One notice to abate overcrowding was served and complied with.

3. Other Housing Matters

(a) *Improvement Grants*

Applications for grants for the improvement of 66 houses were received. Ten of these applications were refused. Of those granted 33 were to owner-occupiers.

Total grant given for approved works in 1957 was £10,742 9s. 9d.

(b) *Housing Act, 1949*

Nine loans to build houses were made, and 21 for the purchase of existing dwellings. Thirteen inspections were made in connection with these applications.

(c) *Rent Act, 1957*

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received from 12 tenants. Of these, nine were granted and three undertakings were accepted from landlords.

It seems a pity that the forms required to be completed by tenants could not have been of a much more simple nature. The whole procedure is complicated enough as it is, but when tenants, many of whom are old or uneducated, are confronted with the form-filling required of them I am sure many must feel unable to cope, and unless competent advice is readily available, they prefer to take the consequences of doing nothing about it.

4. New Building Work

During the year, 318 plans for the erection of new buildings or the conversion, or addition to, existing ones were submitted to the Council. 84 plans for new drainage work were also dealt with.

WATER SUPPLY — NEW TAPPINGS, Etc.

Area	New tapplings and communication pipes	Defective communication pipes renewed
St. Agnes	15	17
Baldhu	34	—
Todpool-Croft handy		
St. Day-Scorrier	16	—
Chacewater	37	—
Carnon Downs	22	—
Cusgarne & Bissoe	23	—
Fcock	28	—
Gwennap & Frogpool	9	—
Grampound-Probus	25	—
Ladock	1	1
St. Mawes	21	1
Newlyn East	1	—
Gerrans-Portscatho	13	—
Perranwell	34	—
Playing Place	15	—
Philleigh	1	—
Veryan-Portloe	1	—
Perranporth-		
Goonhavern	15	—
Ruanhighlanes	5	—
Shortlanesend	1	—
Tregoney	10	—
Twelveheads	7	—
Total	334	19

RODENT CONTROL

Total premises inspected by the Operator	...	4,414
Private premises treated ...	...	424
Business premises treated ...	...	23
Rural District Council property treated		
(Refuse Tips) ...	...	33
Sewerage Works and Systems ...	...	11

MISCELLANEOUS INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR

Water Supplies ...	...	15
Water Samples taken for Analysis	...	87
Food Premises ...	...	86
Infectious Diseases	...	5
Premises Fumigated	...	1

Lengths of Drain tested	649
Lengths of Drain re-tested	99
Drains inspected	125
Cesspools	99
Sewers and Sewerage Works	22
Connections to Sewers	32
Public Conveniences	86
Refuse Collection and Disposal	46
Building Byelaws	342
Premises inspected under Public Health Act (other than for housing defects)	139
Rats and Mice	2
Inspections of Council Houses	152
Caravan Sites	13
Life Saving on Beaches	19
Visits to Cameron Estate	2
Visits to Trevellas Estate	2
Unclassified visits	240

MILK LICENCES

The following licences were issued:—

Dealers licences to retail Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	31
Dealers licences to retail Pasteurised Milk	32
Dealers Supplementary licences to retail Tuberculin Tested Milk	2
Dealers Supplementary licences to retail Pasteurised Milk	2

MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Inspected	6,369		501	9,594	26,513
All diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole Carcases condemned	6	20	—	104	98
Tuberculosis only. Whole Carcases condemned	17	21	2	—	10
All diseases. Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Cattle	...	...	over 761	
	Sheep	...	...	over 269	
	Pigs	...	...	over 1,178	

Other Food Condemned

48 tins Corned Beef
1 tin Peaches
1 x 12 lb. tin Cooked Ham
16 Hams (190 lbs.)

Condemned slaughterhouse meat is removed by a firm of Knackers, other foods are buried deep, under supervision, on the refuse tips.

HOUSING

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year

(a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	132
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	151
Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	27
Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	58

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers ...	37
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	1
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners ...	1
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	—
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	5
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners ...	3
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	1
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which demolition orders were made	...	...	...	...	5
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	...	...	...	...	2
(d) Proceedings under Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953:—					
Number of dwellinghouses closed as a result of Closing Orders under Sections 10 (1) and 11 (2)	...	...	...	...	1

NEW HOUSING

Parish	By Local Authority		Total Completed in post-war period	
	Completed in 1957	Started in 1957	By Local Authority	By private enterprise
St. Agnes	—	2	76	33
St. Allen	—	—	8	5
Chacewater	—	—	23	4
St. Clement (Tresillian)	6	—	4	—
Cubert	—	—	12	7
St. Erme	—	—	12	6
Feock	6	—	40	68
Gerrans	—	6	32	9
Gwennap	—	—	16	3
St. Just-in-Roseland	—	—	35	40
Kea	—	—	30	31
Kenwyn	6	2	32	26
Ladock	—	—	20	2
St. Michael Penkivel	—	—	—	2
Mylor	8	4	67	34
Newlyn East	—	2	46	9
Perranarworthal	—	—	20	12
Perranzabuloe	—	—	71	67
Philleigh	—	—	4	3
Probus	—	—	52	15
Ruanlanihorne	—	—	8	2
Tregoney	5	—	31	4
Veryan	—	—	22	11
	31	16	661	393

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	43	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	22	3	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers premises)	—	—	—	—
	65	5	—	—

2. Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	2	—

